

**METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR VOICE TRANSCODING  
BETWEEN VARIABLE RATE CODERS**

**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

A variable rate compressed voice signal domain transcoder that transcodes a bitstream representing frames of data encoded according to a first voice compression standard to a bitstream representing frames of data according to a second voice compression standard; the second voice compression standard defines a variable-rate voice codec. The method includes unquantizing a bitstream into a first set of parameters compatible with a first compression standard. The first set of parameters in addition to external control commands are then used to determine the frame class and rate for the second compression standard. Next, the first set of parameters are transformed into a second set of parameters compatible with a second compression standard according to the frame-classification and rate determination decision without converting the first set of parameters to an analog or digital voice waveform representation. The transformation approaches can be varied and further optimized based on the characteristics of the pair of first compression standard and the second compression standard. Lastly, the second set of parameters is packed into a bitstream compatible with the second compression standard.

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